

Application No.: 09/581,021

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing goods which lose their values after a period of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

first dealing processing means for executing a cross deal by pre-engagement based on said buying information including desired buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's [side] terminal devices; and

second dealing processing means for executing processing of a dealing in which a conclusion is sequentially made with every agreement between said buying information and said selling information after collating pieces of selling information on unsold goods among selling information output from said seller's terminal devices, and pieces of buying information output from said buyer's terminal devices.

Claim 2 cancelled.

3. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system that, by allowing terminal devices and a host to intercommunicate with each other, makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods losing or reducing their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from the terminal devices,

wherein each of said terminal devices displays information sent thereto on its screen by means of a browser function, and outputs information in response to an operation performed by a user based on the information displayed on the screen; said host

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has a first dealing processing function for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on said buying information;

a second dealing processing function for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on said selling information; and

a third dealing processing function for executing processing of a dealing in which a conclusion is sequentially made with every agreement between said buying information and said selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information.

4. (Previously Presented) A storage medium that stores a program for executing dealing processing steps to make a conclusion of a bargain for goods, based on selling information and buying information for a dealing for the goods which lose or reduce their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from terminal devices, wherein the dealing processing steps comprise a first dealing processing step for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on said buying information;

a second dealing processing step for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on said selling information; and

a third dealing processing step for, after the cross dealing by pre-engagement by said first and second dealing processing steps, executing a dealing to make sequentially a conclusion with every agreement between said buying information and said selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling

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information.

5. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system for making a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for a dealing the goods, which are output from terminal devices, comprising:

dealing processing means for executing a dealing to make sequentially a conclusion with every agreement between said buying information and said selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information;

wherein the dealing processing means comprises first determining means for determining processing procedures of pieces of selling information in accordance with predetermined conditions, second determining means for determining processing procedures of pieces of buying information in accordance with predetermined conditions, and makes a conclusion for said buying information linked in accordance with a processing order of said selling information or a conclusion for said selling information linked in accordance with a processing order of said buying information.

6. (Previously Presented) A terminal device in a goods dealing system for making a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for a dealing of the goods, which are output from terminal devices, comprising:

said dealing processing means claimed in claim 5.

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7. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system for making a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for a dealing of the goods, which are output from terminal devices, by allowing the terminal devices and a host to intercommunicate with each other, wherein each of said terminal devices displays information sent thereto on its screen by means of a browser function, and outputs information in response to an operation performed by a user based on the information displayed on the screen; said host has a dealing processing function for executing processing of a dealing in which a conclusion is sequentially made with every agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information; and said dealing processing function includes a first determining function for determining a processing order of pieces of selling information in accordance with predetermined conditions, a second determining function for determining a processing order of pieces of buying information in accordance with predetermined conditions, and makes a conclusion for said buying information linked in accordance with a processing order of said selling information or a conclusion for said selling information linked in accordance with a processing order of said buying information.

8. (Previously Presented) A storage medium that stores a program for executing dealing processing steps to make a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods, which are output from terminal devices, the goods losing or reducing their values after passage of a period of time, wherein said dealing processing steps include a processing step for executing a dealing for making a conclusion sequentially from a first agreement between the buying

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information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information, and said processing step includes a first determining step for determining a processing order of pieces of selling information in accordance with predetermined conditions, a second determining step for determining a processing order of pieces of buying information in accordance with predetermined conditions, and a step for making a conclusion for said buying information linked in accordance with a processing order of said selling information or a conclusion for said selling information linked in accordance with a processing order of said buying information.

9. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system that makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods, which are output from terminal devices, comprising:

dealing processing means for executing a dealing for making a conclusion sequentially from a first agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information, wherein said dealing processing means includes first specifying means for specifying any piece of information on the goods included in the selling information as a first dealing condition, second specifying means for specifying any piece of information on the goods included in the selling information as a second dealing condition that is easier than said first dealing condition, and processing proceed means for proceeding to a dealing processing for processing, in accordance with the first dealing condition, selling information on unconcluded goods generated in a dealing process in accordance with the second dealing condition.

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10. (Previously Presented) A terminal device in a goods dealing system for making a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for a dealing of the goods, which are output from terminal devices, comprising:

said dealing processing means claimed in claim 9.

11. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system that, by allowing terminal devices and a host to intercommunicate with each other, makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods, which are output from the terminal devices, wherein each of the terminal devices displays information sent thereto on its screen by means of a browser function, and outputs information in response to an operation performed by a user based on the information displayed on the screen, said host has a dealing processing function for executing processing of a dealing in which a conclusion is sequentially made with every agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information, and said dealing processing function includes a first specifying function for specifying any piece of information on the goods included in the selling information as a first dealing condition, a second specifying function for specifying any piece of information on the goods included in the selling information as a second dealing condition that is easier than said first dealing condition, and a processing proceed function for proceeding to a dealing processing for processing, in accordance with the first dealing condition, selling information on unconcluded goods generated in a dealing processing in accordance with the second dealing condition.

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12. (Previously Presented) A storage medium that stores a program for executing processing steps to make a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods, which are output from terminal devices, wherein said processing steps include dealing processing steps for executing a dealing for making a conclusion sequentially from a first agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information, and

said dealing processing steps include first specifying step for specifying any piece of information on the goods included in said selling information as a first dealing condition, second specifying step for specifying any piece of information on the goods included in said selling information as a second dealing condition that is easier than said first dealing condition, and processing proceed step for proceeding to a dealing processing for processing, in accordance with said first dealing condition, selling information on unconcluded goods generated in a dealing processing in accordance with the second dealing condition.

13. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing apparatus that comprises at least one of terminal devices in a system for making a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods losing or reducing their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from the terminal devices,

the goods dealing apparatus comprising:

a screen including:

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a function list display portion for selectively executing one of a first dealing processing function for executing a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on the buying information, a second dealing processing function for executing a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on the selling information, and a third dealing processing function for executing, after the cross dealing by pre-engagement by said first and second dealing processing functions, a dealing in which a conclusion is sequentially made with every agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information; an information display portion for displaying information generated by executing one of the functions selected by the function list display portion; and

a condition entering portion for entering conditions at the time any piece of information is extracted from the information generated by executing one of the functions selected by the function list display portion.

14. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system that makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods, which are output from terminal devices, wherein at least one of the terminal devices is the goods dealing apparatus claimed in claim 13.

15. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system that, by allowing terminal devices and a host to intercommunicate with each other, makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods losing or reducing their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from

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the terminal devices, wherein said host has a first dealing processing function for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on said buying information, a second dealing processing function for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on said selling information, and a third dealing processing function for executing, after the cross dealing by pre-engagement by the first and second dealing processing functions, processing of a dealing in which a conclusion is sequentially made with every agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information; and

each of said terminal devices has a screen which displays information sent thereto by means of a browser function and outputs information in response to an operation performed by a user based on the information displayed thereon, the screen including a function list display portion for selectively executing one of said first dealing processing function, said second dealing processing function, and said third dealing processing function, an information display portion for displaying information generated by executing one of the functions selected by said function list display portion, and a condition entering portion for entering conditions at the time any piece of information is extracted from the information generated by executing one of the functions selected by said function list display portion.

16. (Previously Presented) A storage medium that stores a program for executing dealing processing steps to make a conclusion of a bargain for goods, based on selling information and buying information for a dealing for the goods which lose or reduce their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from terminal

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devices,

wherein said dealing processing steps include steps for displaying a screen comprises:

a function list display portion for selectively executing one of a first dealing processing function for executing a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on the buying information, a second dealing processing function for executing a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on the selling information, and a third dealing processing function for executing, after the cross dealing by pre-engagement by said first and second dealing processing functions, a dealing in which a conclusion is sequentially made with every agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information; an information display portion for displaying information generated by executing one of the functions selected by the function list display portion; and

a condition entering portion for entering conditions at the time any piece of information is extracted from the information generated by executing one of the functions selected by the function list display portion.

17. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system that makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods losing or reducing their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from terminal devices, comprising:

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first dealing processing means for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on buying information; second dealing processing means for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on the selling information;

third dealing processing means for executing, after processing the cross dealing by pre-engagements by said first and second dealing processing means, processing of a dealing in which a conclusion is sequentially made with every agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information; and

fourth dealing processing means for executing processing of a dealing for unsold goods generated by an execution of processing the dealing by any one of the first, second and third dealing processing means, or for executing a dealing for a sale not by the first, second and third dealing processing means.

18. (Previously Presented) A terminal device in a goods dealing system for making a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods, which are output from terminal devices, comprising:

said first to fourth dealing processing means claimed in claims 17.

19. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system that, by allowing terminal devices and a host to intercommunicate with each other, makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods losing or reducing their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from

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the terminal devices, wherein each of the terminal devices displays information sent thereto on its screen by means of a browser function, and outputs information in response to an operation performed by a user based on the information displayed on the screen, and said host has a first dealing processing function for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on buying information, a second dealing processing function for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on the selling information, a third dealing processing function for executing, after processing the cross dealing by preengagements by said first and second dealing processing functions, processing of a dealing in which a conclusion is sequentially made with every agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information, and a fourth dealing processing function for executing processing of a dealing for unsold goods generated by an execution of processing the dealing by any one of the first, second and third dealing processing functions, or for executing a dealing for a sale not by the first, second and third dealing processing functions.

20. (Previously Presented) A storage medium that stores a program for executing processing steps to make a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods losing or reducing their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from terminal devices, wherein said dealing processing steps comprise:

a first dealing processing step for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on the buying information;

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a second dealing processing step for executing processing of a cross dealing by pre-engagement based on the selling information;

a third dealing processing step for executing, after processing the cross dealing by pre-engagements by said first and second dealing processing steps, a dealing to make sequentially a conclusion with every agreement between the buying information and the selling information after collating pieces of buying information and pieces of selling information; and

a fourth dealing processing step for executing processing of a dealing for unsold goods generated by an execution of processing the dealing by any one of the first, second and third dealing processing means, or for executing a dealing for a sale not by the first, second and third dealing processing means.

21. Cancelled.

22. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system that makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods losing or reducing their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from terminal devices, comprising:

pre-confirmation dealing processing means for executing a dealing processing by outputting the selling information based on forecast information before confirmation;
post-confirmation dealing processing means for executing a dealing processing by outputting the selling information based on information indicating a confirmed selling quantity of goods; and

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goods-in-stock selling processing means for executing a dealing processing of unsold goods generated by any execution of the pre-confirmation dealing processing means and the post-confirmation dealing processing means.

23. (Amended) A system that makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods, which are output from terminal devices, wherein at least one of the terminal devices is the goods dealing apparatus claimed in claim 22.

24. (Amended) A goods dealing system that, by allowing terminal devices and a host to intercommunicate with each other, makes a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods losing or reducing their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from the terminal devices, wherein each of said terminal devices displays information sent thereto on its screen by means of a browser function, and outputs information in response to an operation performed by a user based on the information displayed on the screen; and said host comprise post-confirmation dealing processing function for executing a dealing processing by outputting the selling information based on information indicating a confirmed selling quantity of goods, and a goods-in-stock selling processing function for executing a dealing processing of unsold goods generated by the execution of the post-confirmation dealing processing function.

Claims 25-46 cancelled.

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47. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a copying processing means for proceeding the selling information on unsold goods among the selling information output from said seller's terminal devices to goods to be processed for dealing through said second dealing processing means after executing processing of a cross deal by pre-engagement through said first dealing processing means.

48. (Previously Presented) The good dealing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second dealing processing means determines a dealing processing order of the selling information based on conditions of a selling information processing order to determine the processing order for said plural selling information, and determine a dealing processing order of the buying information based on conditions of a buying information processing order to determine a processing order for said plural buying information corresponding to each selling information in the determined dealing processing order of the selling information, and execute sequentially dealing processing.

49. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second dealing processing means include a C1 dealing processing function based on buying information with relatively easy conditions, and a C2 dealing processing function based on buying information with more rigorous conditions than the C1 dealing processing; and

wherein the C1 dealing processing is executed after buying conditions are relaxed for the buying information unsold with said C2 dealing processing.

50. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

third dealing processing means for executing dealing in unsold goods which result

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from either processing of said first dealing processing means or said second dealing processing means,

wherein said third dealing processing means classify and display the unsold goods as goods to be excluded from sale and as goods to be sold.

51. (Amended) A goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods which reduce in value after a period of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

dealing processing means for executing processing of a cross deal by pre-engagement based on said buying information including requested buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's terminal devices;

first cluster formation means for forming clusters of buying information of the same buying conditions in plural pieces of said buying information;

second cluster formation means for forming clusters of selling information which meet buying [selling] conditions corresponding to the respective clusters of said buying information in plural pieces of selling information; and

dealing contract making means for making bargain by linking selling information with buying information between the clusters formed by said first cluster formation means and the corresponding clusters formed by said second cluster formation means based on a predetermined processing order for the clusters of said buying information or a predetermined processing order for the clusters of said selling information.

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52. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing apparatus according to claim 51, wherein conditions for determining clusters by said first cluster formation means and said second cluster formation means are divided into plural levels; and

wherein said dealing contract making means executes processing for making a bargain between the buying information cluster formed by said first cluster formation means and the selling information cluster formed by said second cluster formation means having the same level as the level of the buying information cluster.

53. (Amended) A goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's [side] terminal devices and plural buyer's [side] terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods which lose their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

dealing processing means for executing processing of a cross deal by pre-engagement based on buying information including requested buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's terminal devices;

buying information readout means for determining a processing order for said plural pieces of buying information based on predetermined conditions, and reading out respective buying information in the determined order;

cluster formation means for forming clusters of selling information having the same conditions as the buying conditions contained in the readout buying information; and

dealing contract making means for making a bargain by linking respective selling information contained in the clusters of the selling information formed by said cluster formation means with said buying information.

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54. (Amended) A goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods which lose their values after passage of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

dealing processing means for executing a cross deal by pre-engagement based on buying information including requested buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices [and] and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's terminal devices;

selling information readout means for determining processing order for said plural pieces of selling information based on predetermined conditions, and reading out respective selling information in the determined order;

cluster formation means for forming clusters of the buying information having the same conditions as the selling conditions contained in the readout selling information; and

dealing contract making means for making a bargain by linking respective buying information contained in the clusters of the buying information formed by said cluster formation means with said selling information.

55. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods which lose their value after passage of a period of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

dealing processing means for executing processing of a cross deal by pre-engagement based on said buying information including requested buying date information and arrival place information output from said buyer's terminal devices

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and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information and shipping place information output from said seller's terminal devices; and distribution cost table defining each distribution cost for every shipping place and arrival place,

wherein information including distribution costs defined in said distribution cost table based on said shipping place information and arrival place information is transmitted to said buyer's terminal device when a dealing demand is issued from said buyer's side terminal devices to said selling information.

56. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing system connected to plural seller's terminal devices, plural buyer's terminal devices, and at least a market management device through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods with said market management device based on selling information and buying information for dealing goods which lose their values after passage of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices,

said market management device, comprising:

first dealing processing means for executing a cross deal by pre-engagement based on buying information output from said buyer's terminal devices;

second dealing processing means for executing a cross deal by pre-engagement based on said selling information output from said seller's terminal devices; and

third dealing processing means for processing of dealing in which a bargain is concluded with every agreement between said buying information and said selling information after collating selling information on unsold goods among the selling information output from said seller's terminal devices and buying information newly output from said buyer's terminal devices, after executing processing of a cross deal by pre-engagement with said first dealing processing means and second dealing processing means.

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57. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing system according to claim 56, wherein said market management device further comprises third dealing processing means for executing dealing in unsold goods resulting from at least either said first dealing processing means or second dealing processing means,

said third dealing processing means classifying the unsold goods as goods to be excluded and as goods to be sold.

58. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing system according to claim 57, wherein said market management device further comprises pre-confirmation dealing processing means for executing a pre-confirmation deal based on forecast information before confirmation of the amount of goods to be received,

wherein said seller's terminal devices

transmit forecast selling information to said pre-confirmation deal processing means before confirmation of the amount of the goods to be received,

transmit selling information to said first dealing processing means and/or said second dealing processing means after confirmation of the amount of the goods to be received, and

transmit selling information for the goods to be sold to said third dealing processing means when unsold goods result from at least any processing among said pre-confirmation dealing processing means, the first dealing processing means, and the second dealing processing means.

59. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing method using a goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing of the goods which lose their values after a period of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

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a first dealing processing step for executing a cross deal by pre-engagement based on buying information including desired buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's terminal devices; and

a second dealing processing step for executing a deal every time an agreement between said buying information and said selling information exists, after collating pieces of selling information on unsold goods among selling information output from said seller's terminal device or from selling information newly output from said seller's terminal devices, and pieces of buying information output from said buyer's terminal devices.

60. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing method according to claim 59, further comprising:

a copying processing step for processing the selling information for unsold goods among the selling information output from said seller's terminal devices for dealing through said second dealing processing step after executing a cross deal by pre-engagement through said first dealing processing step.

61. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing method according to claim 59, wherein said second dealing processing step determines a processing order of the selling information based on conditions of selling information, and determines a processing order of the buying information based on conditions of buying information and executes dealing processing sequentially based on the processing order of said selling and buying information.

62. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing method according to claim 59, wherein said second dealing processing step includes a C1 dealing processing based on buying information with relatively easy conditions, and a C2 dealing processing based on

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buying information with more rigorous conditions than the C1 dealing processing; and wherein the C1 dealing processing is executed after the C2 processing when conditions are relaxed for the buying information remaining after said C2 dealing processing.

63. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing method according to claim 59, further comprising:

third dealing processing step for executing dealing in unsold goods after either processing of said first dealing processing step or said second dealing processing step;

wherein said third dealing processing step classifies and displays the unsold goods as goods to be excluded from sale and as goods to be sold.

64. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing method using a goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for the goods which lose their value after a period of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices comprising:

a dealing processing step for executing processing of a cross deal by pre-engagement based on said buying information including requested buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's terminal devices;

a first cluster formation step for forming clusters of buying information under the same buying conditions included in plural pieces of said buying information;

a second cluster formation step for forming clusters of selling information, which meet buying conditions corresponding to the respective clusters of said buying information, contained in plural pieces of selling information; and

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a contract making step for making a bargain by linking selling information with buying information between the clusters formed by said first cluster formation step and the corresponding clusters formed by said second cluster formation step based on a predetermined processing order for the clusters of said buying information or a predetermined processing order for the clusters of said selling information.

65. (Previously Presented) The goods dealing step according to claim 64, wherein conditions for determining clusters by said first cluster information step and said second cluster formation step are divided into plural levels; and

wherein said contract making step executes processing for making a bargain between the buying information cluster formed by said first cluster formation step and the selling information cluster formed by said second cluster formation step having the same level as the level of the buying information cluster.

66. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing method using a goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for goods which lose value after passage of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

a dealing processing step for executing a cross deal by pre-engagement based on buying information including requested buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's terminal devices;

a buying information readout step for determining a processing order for said plural pieces of buying information based on predetermined conditions, and reading out respective buying information in the determined order;

a cluster information step for forming clusters of selling information having the

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same conditions as the buying conditions contained in the readout buying information;
and

a contract making step for making a bargain by linking respective selling information contained in the clusters of the selling information formed by said cluster formation step with said buying information.

67. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing method using a goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for the goods which lose their values after passage of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

a dealing processing step for executing processing of a cross deal by pre-engagement based on buying information including requested buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's terminal devices;

a selling information readout step for determining a processing order for said plural pieces of selling information based on predetermined conditions, and reading out respective selling information in the determined order;

a cluster formation step for forming clusters of the buying information having the same conditions as the selling conditions contained in the readout selling information;
and

a contract making step for making a bargain by linking respective buying information contained in the clusters of the buying information formed by said cluster formation step with said selling information.

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68. (Previously Presented) A goods dealing step using a goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for dealing the goods which lose or reduce their values after passage of a period of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

a dealing processing step for executing a cross deal by pre-engagement based on said buying information including requested buying date information and arrival place information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information and shipping place information output from said seller's terminal devices; and

a transmitting step for transmitting information including distribution costs referring to a distribution cost table defining each distribution cost for every shipping place and arrival place based on said shipping place information and arrival place information when a dealing start demand is issued to said selling information from said buyer's terminal devices.

69. (Previously Presented) A storage medium to store a computer program for a goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a conclusion of a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for the goods which lose their values after passage of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

a first dealing processing step for executing a cross deal by pre-engagement based on said buying information including requested buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's terminal devices; and

a computer readable storage medium storing a computer program to execute a

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second dealing processing step of a dealing in which an agreement is sequentially made with every agreement between said buying information and said selling information after collating pieces of selling information on unsold goods among the selling information output from said seller's terminal devices or selling information newly output from said seller's side terminal devices, and buying information output from said buyer's terminal devices.

70. (Previously Presented) A storage medium to store a computer program for a goods dealing apparatus connected to plural seller's terminal devices and plural buyer's terminal devices through a computer network, and making a bargain for goods based on selling information and buying information for goods which lose or reduce their value after passage of time, which are output from said plural seller's terminal devices and said plural buyer's terminal devices, comprising:

a dealing processing step for executing processing of a cross deal by pre-engagement based on said buying information including requested buying date information output from said buyer's terminal devices and/or based on selling information including expected selling date information output from said seller's terminal devices;

a first cluster formation step for forming clusters of buying information under the same buying conditions included in the respective buying information, as to said plural pieces of said buying information;

a second cluster formation step for forming clusters of selling information which meet buying conditions corresponding to the respective clusters of said buying information, as to plural pieces of selling information; and

a computer readable storage medium to record a computer program for letting said goods dealing apparatus execute a dealing contract making step for making a conclusion of the bargain by linking selling information with buying information between the clusters formed by said first cluster formation step and the corresponding clusters formed

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by said second cluster formation step based on a predetermined processing order for the clusters of said buying information or a predetermined processing order for the clusters of said selling information.